**English 201 Professor Everson**

**Project 1: Puerto Rican Folk Literature Wiki: Development of Coll y Toste Story Pages**

In small groups (1-2-3 or 4 members) students will select one of the following[[1]](#footnote-1) folk stories written by Cayetano Coll y Toste in Spanish from the collection, *Leyendas puertoriqueñas* (Mexico: Orion, 1960) – available digitally at the University of Florida website: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00078480/00001/1j?search=1797>. (See internet link on the Projects page of the Class Wiki.) This book is also available in the UMET Bayamon library.

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| * El Matador de Tiburones (1640) | * La Hija del Verdugo (1765) |
| * Becerrillo (1514) | * Una Buena Espada Toledana (1625) |
| * El Santo Cristo de la Salud (1766) | * El Pirata de Cofresí (1824) |
| * El Grano de Oro (1530) | * Carabalí (1830) |
| * La Sortija de Diamante (1590) | * La Campana del Ingenio (1840) |

For this Project, students must:

**RESEARCH: [25 point per section – each student evaluated section developed]**

1. Browse then selected one story in Spanish and read it **critically**. You should print (or download or photocopy) the story to be able to work closely with the text. Follow our method for critical reading by understanding the author, audience, and text.
2. Form a small group (1-2-3 or 4 students), and Create a story page in the Wiki Project Workshop. Be sure to put the proper “tag” on your page so that it appears on the menu. Copy and paste the Coll y Toste story page outline onto your group story page. Add group members, title of story, author, and publication information.
3. Assign each group member a section of the story page to develop: Story Background; Plot Analysis; Historical Analysis; or Literary Analysis . The assignments should be based on students’ interests and strengths.
4. **For “Story Background” Section**: (a) Look for a version of the story translated into English., and link, upload, or cite it. Find information on the translator. (See professor for help on this step – this can be done later in the project); (b) Do some basic research on the author Coll y Toste’s life (see biography page on wiki) and connect specific details of how his work, life, interests, and historical period might relate to the selected story. Some information may be found in the book while other information has to be researched using other sources. Most (or all) of your sources (*fuentes*) may be in Spanish – that is expected! **Do not just copy/paste** random information or all the information from his biography – we already have a biography page on him. If you discover something new – please add it to the Biography page. This wiki is an on-going living breathing website – like Wikipedia! Someday – it may be the First Source of information for people interested in Puerto Rican Folk Literature! (That is my ultimate goal.) (c) Look for information about other existing versions of this story -- has it been re-published in Spanish, has the text been updated or changed in any way, etc.
5. **For the Story Analysis Section**: (a) Provide a brief plot summary of the original text. (b) Analyze elements of plot (events and their relationship) that are particularly interesting or those that may have been changed in English or other, modern versions. (c) Analyze any use of flashback, flashforward, or foreshadowing that is present to the original text, or a translated or modern version. (Be sure to indicate which version is being discussed by citing author).
6. **For Historical Analysis Section:** (a) Do some general research on the historical setting (time period and specific place of action). Some information is included in the book as end notes. (b) Do some basic research on the historical figures, real historical events, or social practices depicted in the story (For example: historical characters that appear such as Bishop Trespalacios in “Eleven Thousand Virgins,” known historical events like the invasion of Puerto Rico by British Gen. Abercromby, or practices such as piracy or slavery in other stories.)
7. **For the Literary Analysis Section**: (a) identify at least one important theme (or subtext) of the story. (b) Identify and analyze the most important literary elements of the work, such as: symbolism, imagery, motifs, irony (types), allegory, character types (hero/heroine, foil, villain, archetypal), or tone. (c) Write a well-developed paragraph or short essay to show how at least one literary element contributes to developing one theme (or subtext) of the story, or for making the story effective, interesting and relevant for today.
8. **All sections**: Include **citations** of appropriate and reliable sources in MLA style, and include each full reference in MLA style in the **References** section at bottom of page. See Internet Resources page for good academic sources.

**REPORT and PRESENTATION: [20 points – individual]**

1. All the information collected above in the research stage must be shared on the class wiki story page: Puerto Rican Folk Literature wiki (<http://folkliteraturepuertorico.wikispaces.com/home>) See link on Class wiki Home page.
2. All information and analysis of the story must be done in English. Professor will help with final editing.
3. Each group member must contribute to developing a section of the story page. All work by students for this project will be verified using the History of page feature. This will be demonstrated in the Project workshop. There will be no exceptions – part of this project is learning how to collaborate using this wiki platform. If you need help using wikispaces, please contact professor for individualized help!
4. Oral Presentations will be evaluated individually. Each student will present his or her analysis. See Presentation rubric for details.

1. Other Coll y Toste stories from other collections or folk stories (stories that originated in oral tradition) may be chosen, with the approval of the professor. “Guanina” is eliminated because there is a lot of information already developed on this story. Story pages already created may be done (such as Eleven Thousand Virgins, Executioner’s Daughter, etc.). You may edit and correct those pages – or start a new page – ask Professor for help with this. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)